

The consumers of telecommunications in this country entered into a deal with the devil when we allowed the creation of the tariff system that built AT&T and the Bell Companies. The challenge today is to fairly unbundle access to the physical network and network elements. The existing rules are an important start in turning our investment in the Bell system into a thriving marketplace. More should be done to facilitate moving from a mode of relying on distance based charges, to relying on packet transfer charges. The entire industry needs to be recast from the view of network access rather than distance traveled. We need UNE-P and CO access.